

*By Mr. Elliott:*

Q. Just a couple of questions, Mr. Farrow. Mr. Bennett was asking you with regard to the record at different points. Do you keep your record in that way, that is the cases that have arisen at Windsor on which money was collected. What is the method you adopt?—A. We have two records in the department. One is for the purpose of recording seizures and recording the condition in which the seizures are received. It is in the Seizure Branch, sending out copies and keeping a record of it. There is a further record in the Accountants Branch, of seizures at ports by the Preventive Service.

Q. So you have seizures by ports and by preventive service, you say?—A. Yes.

Q. I took down that there are 104 officers in the Preventive Service now?—A. Yes.

Q. Sixty-seven special officers?—A. Yes.

Q. And the increase has been in the Preventive Service in recent years?—A. The Principal increase.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the increase in that staff?—A. No, I said that Mr. Wilson could give you that better than I could. I cannot remember it.

Q. Now, your main activities have been under the Customs Act?—A. Yes.

Q. And the amendments to that Act?—A. Yes.

Q. And the excise, you say, you are not so familiar with, did I understand you?—A. That is right, Sir.

Q. The form "K" that you referred to, do you happen to have one of those forms with you?—A. No.

Q. I think it would be well if you would let each of the members of the Committee have one of those forms?—A. Yes.

Q. That would be quite convenient?—A. Yes.

Q. That contains the first information that you get, practically?—A. Yes.

Q. And is a general summary of the information that is intended to be conveyed to you by the officers who report?—A. Yes.

Q. And that form is supposed to contain all the different kinds of information that is required to decide upon what course to take?—A. No, that has to be supplemented by evidence.

Q. By evidence?—A. Oh yes.

Q. Does the form include what the evidence is, or what information they have?—A. Decides whether the seizure was made on information or not.

Q. Nothing more than that?—A. No.

Q. Then the department make a supplementary report—A. As soon as the party gets the notice of the seizure he is required to file his evidence.

Q. That evidence is not passed on by the assistant law clerk?—A. By the head law clerk. And then by the general executive assistant.

Q. I suppose the main test he applies is whether or not on the statement given to him he can reasonably expect to obtain a conviction, that is, whether the evidence is such as to justify proceeding further. Is that it?—A. No, that is for prosecutions only.

Q. Yes, in deciding as to prosecutions?—A. In deciding as to prosecutions the officer has instructions where he is to prosecute forthwith, but as I said before, I never knew of any prosecutions under the Act until this last amendment to the Act.

Q. That is the amendment of 1925?—A. July, 1925.

Q. There were no prosecutions at all?—A. Very, very rarely.

Q. Up to 1925?—A. Yes.

Q. You are to prepare a list of the prosecutions?—A. Yes.

[Mr. R. R. Farrow.]